

Application No.: 10/764721

Case No.: 57079US005

REMARKS

Claims 1-8 are pending. Claims 4-6 have been withdrawn from consideration.

§ 102 Rejections

Claims 1-3 and 7-8 stand rejected under 35 USC § 102(b) as purportedly anticipated by U.S. Pat. No. 3,891,619 (Sommer). Applicants respectfully traverse.

The cited reference does not teach or suggest compounds wherein a group analogous to R₁ in the present claims simultaneously satisfies *both* of the following conditions, as required in the present claims: a) it is bound to a CH-SO₂- or NH-SO₂- moiety, and b) it contains at least one highly acidic group selected from the group consisting of: sulfonic acid, carboxylic acid and phosphonic acid.

The rejection of claims 1-3 and 7-8 under 35 USC § 102(b) as purportedly anticipated by Sommer has been overcome and should be withdrawn.

In view of the above, it is submitted that the application is in condition for allowance. Reconsideration of the application is requested.

Respectfully submitted,

June 5, 2006

Date

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